

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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US CUSTOMS HQS WASHDC

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SECSTATE FOR S/NM, DEA HQS ATTN: TRI, U.S. CUSTOMS HQS
ATTN: INT OPS, PARIS FOR DEA

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SUBJECT: NARCOTICS TRAINING FACILITIES

REF: STATE 284346 (DTG: 190135Z NOV 76)

FOLLOWING ARE REPLIES TO LETTERED QUESTIONS PARA 5 REFTEL:
A & B) DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT IN MOROCCO IS THE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NATIONAL POLICE (SURETE NATIONALE), CUSTOMS AND EXCISE (DOUANES ET IMPOTS INDIRECTS) AND THE GENDARMERIE (GENDARMERIE ROYALE). NONE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED NATIONAL AGENCIES DEVOTES MORE THAN ONE (1) HOUR TO THE TOPIC OF DRUG ENFORCEMENT DURING INITIAL TRAINING. IN FACT, THE ONE HOUR IS MERELY A REVIEW OF THE CURRENT LAW WITH REGARD TO POLICE OR CUSTOMS OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY IN THE EVENT OF AN ARREST FOR POSSESSION OR SALE OF DRUGS.

C) THE NATIONAL POLICE ARE CURRENTLY CONSTRUCTING A TRAINING ACADEMY NEAR RABAT. THE FACILITY SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1978 AND IS EXPECTED TO BE VASTLY SUPERIOR TO THE 3 POLICE SCHOOLS WHICH ARE NOW IN OPERATION AND SERVE ONLY AS A ROOF UNDER WHICH THE MOROCCAN POLICE COMMIT TO MEMORY THE PENAL CODE. TEACHING METHODS OF CUSTOMS AND GENDARMERIE, ESSEN-

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TIALLY THE SAME AS THOSE OF THE NATIONAL POLICE TRAIN-

ING FACILITIES, ARE DEVOID OF PRACTICAL EXERCISES.

D) INSTRUCTORS FOR ALL THREE ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE GENERAL TEXT ON WHICH ALL CLASSROOM WORK IS BASED. THEY ARE NOT SUPPLIED WITH LESSON PLANS CONCERNING DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNIQUES AND ARE INCAPABLE OF TEACHING THIS SUBJECT, IN WHICH THEY LACK SPECIALIZED TRAINING. MOST INSTRUCTORS LACK EVEN A BASIC KNOWLEDGE ABOUT NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS.

E) INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSES, OFFERED IN CONJUNCTION WITH DEA AND CUSTOMS IN-COUNTRY TRAINING DURING FY 76, INVOLVED A 3 DAY COURSE FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN (10) CUSTOMS INSTRUCTORS AND EIGHT (8) NATIONAL POLICE INSTRUCTORS. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF ANY OTHER NARCOTICS TRAINING HAVING BEEN RECEIVED BY MOROCCAN INSTRUCTORS.

F) MOROCCAN INTEREST IN FUTURE U.S. TRAINING REFLECTS A FAVORABLE GOM ASSESSMENT OF COURSES WHICH HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY OFFERED. ALTHOUGH MOROCCAN STATISTICS HAVE NOT BEEN PROVIDED, HIGH OFFICIALS FROM POLICE AND CUSTOMS HAVE INFORMED US THAT BOTH THE NUMBER OF DRUG RELATED INVESTIGATIONS AND SEIZURES HAVE INCREASED AS A RESULT OF U.S. TRAINING. IN COURSE OF DAILY CONTACT WITH MOROCCAN COUNTERPARTS, DEA PERSONNEL AT POST HAVE ALSO NOTED A MARKED INCREASE IN INTEREST IN DRUG INVESTIGATIONS ON THE PART OF THE OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL POLICE, PROBABLY AWAKENED AS A RESULT OF PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY TRAINING.

G) MOROCCAN POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS VIEW DRUG ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AS A SPECIALIZATION AND NOT AS PART OF THE GENERAL POLICE CURRICULUM. NATIONAL POLICE SOURCES TELL US THAT PERHAPS WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE (5) YEARS THE POLICE WILL BE ABLE TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROVIDING INSTRUCTION TO ITS OWN OFFICERS IN DRUG ENFORCEMENT. MEANWHILE, THE POLICE ARE INTERESTED IN SENDING INSTRUCTORS TO THE U.S. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR TRAINING AS WELL AS IN PARTICIPATING IN DEA AND CUSTOMS IN-COUNTRY SCHOOLS. THERE IS ALSO MOROCCAN INTEREST IN RECEIVING AUDIO VISUAL MATERIAL WITH WHICH AT LEAST BASIC INSTRUCTION COULD BE PROVIDED TO OFFICERS ACTIVELY WORKING NARCOTIC CASES.

H) CONSIDERING THAT U.S. EMPHASIS IS NOW ON DEVELOPING MOROCCO'S OWN TRAINING CAPABILITIES RATHER THAN

ACTUALLY TRAINING ITS OFFICERS, WE BELIEVE THE BEST APPROACH IS AS STATED IN REFTTEL, I.E. INSTRUCTORS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING IN THE U.S. OR HOST COUNTRY. EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD BE TRAINING OF POLICY-LEVEL POLICE OFFICIALS WHO UPON COMPLETION OF TRAINING WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AND NECESSARY CHANGES IN CURRENT INSTRUCTION PROCEDURES. IMPRESSING UPON THE GOM THE NEED TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS OWN NARCOTICS TRAINING WILL NOT BE AN EASY TASK. NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT IS NOT ONE OF THE GOM'S PRIORITIES. SUBTLE BUT STEADY URGING FROM THE USG WILL BE REQUIRED EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

I) THE FEASIBILITY, PROBABILITY AND CAPABILITY OF THE MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT'S CONDUCTING REGIONAL TRAINING FOR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IS NIL, BOTH BECAUSE OF LACK OF INTERNAL CAPABILITY AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS WITH ITS PRIMARY NEIGHBOR ALGERIA.
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